

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

'Making a Difference in East Ayrshire Communities'

ALERT



8 August 2025

Barclays – Community Sport Fund

Small grants to get more women in the UK qualified as coaches for girls.

The fund is available to all clubs and groups that run football, cricket or tennis activities for girls and who wish to get more female coaches qualified.

Applications will be accepted from not-for-profit organisations, including community groups, youth groups, and traditional sports clubs, who are submitting on behalf of the individuals who want to undertake their coaching qualifications. Groups who have already received a grant from the Barclays Community Sport Fund can also apply.

The fund provides two coaching grants per club to cover the cost of, or a contribution towards, a Level 1 or equivalent introductory qualification and any additional safeguarding and first aid requirements for the chosen sport (football, tennis or cricket).

Grants of £200 are available for tennis and cricket and grants of £160 for football.

To be eligible for funding, the female coaches must be:

- Aged 16+
- Already coaching girls or would like to start
- Part of a club or group with girls' provision where they would like to begin or continue coaching (i.e. current player, parent of a player, volunteer etc.)
- Be able to undertake their coaching qualification within 12 months (subject to course availability).

The deadline for applications is 22 August 2025.

[Barclays - Community Sport Fund](#)

Consortium – LGBT+ Youth Advocacy Fund

The Consortium of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Voluntary and Community Organisations, in partnership with the Henry Smith Foundation, is offering funding for organisations working with LGBT+ youth across the UK to deliver projects that enable them to be well-resourced, sustainable, resilient, and build confidence and independence in LGBT+ young people.

Grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 are available for projects that achieve one or more of the following aims:

- Young people are better prepared for adulthood.
- Young people have improved resilience with increased aspirations and opportunities.
- Increased coordination and collaboration between agencies and organisations.
- Skilled and competent workforces supporting LGBT+ young people.
- Organisations are better equipped to provide holistic, person-centred support.
- Organisational policies will better consider and reflect the experiences of LGBT+ young people and their specific needs when growing into adulthood.

Priority will be given to organisations in historically underfunded areas within the LGBT+ sector, such as the North-East, East, Southwest of England, the Devolved Nations, areas lacking provision, and/or work that supports intersectional LGBT+ communities.

The deadline for applications is 27 August 2025.

[Consortium - LGBT+ Youth Advocacy Fund](#)

Corra Foundation – Boost Fund

Corra Foundation, in partnership with STV Children's Appeal and Comic Relief, is offering grants of between £500 and £3,000 for charities and community organisations across Scotland with an annual income of up to £50,000 that work with children and families affected by poverty.

Grants of between £250 and £1,500 are also available to unconstituted groups.

Due to an increase in funding, a total of £750,000 is available until March 2026. It is anticipated that 250 to 300 grants will be made.

Funding is for projects that:

- Provide an accessible and supportive funding opportunity for small community-led organisations.
- Ensure community-led activities remain available to children and families despite the challenges the higher cost of living poses for charities and community groups.

There are no deadlines. Applications can be submitted at any time and will close when the available funding is fully allocated.

[Corra Foundation - Boost Fund](#)

Henry Smith Foundation – Shout! Fund

The Shout! Fund is for not-for-profit organisations that support young people aged 14 to 25 through independent, person-led advocacy. It focuses on helping young people make informed choices, speak up, and secure their rights.

To be eligible for funding, organisations must be working to support at least one of the following:

- **Care-experienced young people** – this includes those who have been in foster care, residential care, kinship care, or have left care.
- **LGBT+ young people** – supporting young people across the full spectrum of LGBT+ identities. Applicants must be working work inclusively and affirming the rights, identities, and lived experiences of all LGBT+ people.
- **Young people with a learning disability and/or neurodivergence** – organisations that offer support without requiring a diagnosis and take an inclusive approach.

Although applications will be accepted from across the UK, there is particular interest in projects in Northern Ireland, Wales and rural communities.

It is expected that 20 grants will be made. Grants of up to £60,000 per year for up to four years are available (a total of £240,000).

Accessibility support grants are also available to help cover costs such as BSL interpreters, scribes, translation services, assistive technology, or support workers: £250 at the Expression of Interest stage and £500 at the Full Application stage (if invited).

Formally registered, not-for-profit organisations with a charitable purpose (eg, registered charity, CIO, CIC, community benefit society) with an annual income of £5 million or less can apply as long as they are based in the UK and their work support people in the UK and they are supporting young people to speak up, make choices, and secure their rights.

To start the application process, groups need to complete a short eligibility quiz on the Foundation's website.

Eligible organisations will then be able to submit an Expression of Interest from 23 July 2025.

The deadline for Expressions of Interest is 20 August 2025.

[Henry Smith Foundation - Shout! Fund](#)

Henry Smith Foundation – Together We Begin Fund

The Together We Begin fund is part of the Foundation's Getting Started funding priority, which supports families to give young children the best possible start in life. The key aims of the fund are to:

- Strengthen parenting skills to improve children's outcomes.
- Build confidence and reduce stress in the home.
- Connect families to their local community.

The funding is for formally registered not-for-profit organisations with a charitable purpose working in the UK with an annual income below £1 million who:

- Support families with children aged 0-5 (including during pregnancy) who face financial hardship or social isolation.
- Work in areas with high levels of child poverty - at least 24.9% of children live in poverty in their local authority area.

Grants of between £40,000 and £50,000 per year for up to three years are available (a maximum total of £150,000). It is expected that 40 grants will be made. Accessibility support grants are also available to help cover costs such as BSL interpreters, scribes, translation services, assistive technology, or support workers: £250 at the Expression of Interest stage and £500 at the Full Application stage (if invited).

The deadline for Expressions of Interest is 28 August 2025.

[Henry Smith Foundation - Together We Begin Fund](#)

Henry Smith Foundation – Domestic Abuse Fund

The Domestic Abuse Fund is part of the Foundation's new Safer Futures funding priority, which supports services that help people rebuild their lives after abuse, displacement or prison.

This funding is intended for groups that are deeply rooted in their communities and offer person-centred, holistic support that is tailored around the needs of people from marginalised and minoritised communities who have experienced domestic abuse.

This fund is specifically for formally registered, not-for-profit organisations with a charitable purpose led-by-and-for marginalised and minoritised communities with a track record of at least three years' experience providing specialist domestic abuse support to their community. There are no minimum or maximum income thresholds – applications will be considered from organisations of all sizes.

It is expected that 20 grants will be made. All successful applicants will receive a grant of £250,000 over five years (£50,000 per year).

Although the funding is intended to be used for running costs, it will also support project costs if this is the preference.

Expressions of Interest open 13 August 2025 and close 10 September 2025.

[Henry Smith Foundation - Domestic Abuse Fund](#)

Impact Funding Partners – Volunteering Support Fund

Impact Funding Partners administers the fund on behalf of the Scottish Government.

Not-for-profit organisations in Scotland with an annual income of below £250,000 can apply.

The maximum grant over the funded period (1 November 2025 to 31 March 2027) is £20,000 with a maximum of:

- £6,000 in Year One
- £14,000 in Year Two.

The fund will support organisations to deliver on the following outcomes:

- Increasing the diversity of the third sector's volunteer pool, especially to include people who experience disadvantage or would traditionally experience barriers to volunteering.
- Improving opportunities for skills and personal development through volunteering.
- Improving third sector capacity to support, train and deploy volunteers.
- Enhancing the services that organisations deliver to better meet the needs of the communities they serve.
- Recruiting volunteers with relevant skills to help strengthen organisational governance.
- Making a positive impact towards ending child poverty.

The deadline for applications is 25 August 2025.

[Impact Funding Partners - Volunteering Support Fund](#)

Local Energy Scotland – Community Energy Generation Growth Fund

Local Energy Scotland has announced a second 2025/26 round of the Community Energy Generation Growth Fund.

The Fund is part of the Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES), building on last year's pilot round.

Through the Fund, grants are available to established and incorporated community groups such as development trusts and community energy and climate action groups to set up renewable energy generation projects, such as:

- Installing wind turbines and solar panels.
- Developing other types of renewable energy generation, such as hydro, to meet local needs.

The funding available is mostly capital. A limited amount of funding is also available for feasibility studies and option appraisals. The following levels of funding are available:

- Feasibility Stage: Grants of up to £20,000.
- Development Stage: Grants of up to £250,000.
- Construction Stage: Grants of up to 80% of construction costs up to a maximum of £250,000. Or up to 25% of construction costs with no maximum cap. Organisations can also apply for short-term bridging loans with a minimum value of £60,000 while securing match funding.

Projects should be able to demonstrate that they can complete a significant project milestone by 17 March 2026.

The deadline for applications is 8 September 2025.

[Local Energy Scotland - Community Energy Generation Growth Fund](#)

Walking Scotland – SPT Community Path Fund

Funding of up to £10,000 is available to construct new paths to improve network connectivity as well as to upgrade existing paths to make them more accessible. This can include removing barriers on paths that are restrictive for people using adaptive equipment, installing seating along routes to provide rest points, installing directional signage, and planting wildlife-friendly trees and shrubs.

Any community organisation with a constitution and bank account based within the SPT (Strathclyde Partnership for Transport) region can apply.

All work must be completed by 23 February 2026.

Applications are open now and close on 8 September 2025.

[Walking Scotland - SPT Community Path Fund](#)

Woodroffe Benton Foundation – Small Grant Programme

UK registered charities can apply for a grant of between £500 and £2,500 for projects that improve the quality of life and social engagement for people with severe physical and/or learning disabilities in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be a UK registered charity based in the UK with an annual income of less than £750,000.
- Have at least one full set of Accounts following charity registration.

The funding is primarily for the core operating costs rather than for a specific project; however, the latter will not be excluded.

There are usually two funding rounds per year, in March and August.

This round will close on 31 August 2025 or when 150 applications have been received.

[Woodroffe Benton Foundation - Small Grant Programme](#)

East Ayrshire Council Community Grant

The next deadline date for applications is 19 September 2025.

[East Ayrshire Council Community Grant](#)

Renewable Energy Fund

To check the next deadline date for applications please contact Democratic Services at Council HQ on 01563 554400 for further information.

[Renewable Energy Fund](#)

Tincornhill Quarry Fund

For further information on application criteria and deadline dates please go to:

[Tincornhill Quarry Fund](#)

East Ayrshire 4 Community

If you are looking for external funding for a particular project then please remember to register **FREE** at East Ayrshire 4 Community by going to the following link:

[East Ayrshire 4 Community](#)